

REMARKS

Initially, in the Office Action dated May 23, 2002, the Examiner has rejected claims 1-8 under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,120,945 (Nishibe et al.).

By the present response, Applicants have canceled claims 1, 2 and 7. Further, Applicants have amended claims 3 and 8 to further clarify the invention. Moreover, Applicants have added new claim 9 for consideration by the Examiner. Claims 3-6 and 8-9 remain pending in the present application.

Claims 1-8 have been rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Nishibe, et al. Claims 1, 2 and 7 have been canceled. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections with respect to the remaining pending claims.

Nishibe et al. discloses a transaction recording system and method that permits transaction data such as memos to be later changed thereby to provide data useful for processing an account such as a household account book. Nishibe, et al. discloses adding additional memos such as items by a user into the transaction data which are stored in the transaction data storing means. In Nishibe, et al., the transaction data are rearranged in every predetermined period and totaled depending on credit and debit, and the same are outputted by printing.

Applicants submit that Nishibe et al. does not disclose or suggest the limitations in the combination of claims 3 and 8 of the present invention of, inter alia, inputting a variety of account data where a display unit displays the respective account data inputted from a plurality of input units and the account data entered in a memory unit as a household account book, or an overlap judgment unit that judges an overlap between the respective account data displayed on the display unit

and the account data entered in the memory unit as the household account book and stores the account data into the memory unit based on the result of the overlap judgment. Nishibe, et al. discloses writing memo items indicative of a contents of the transaction at any time as well as outputting memos in specific arrangements, such as the same kind of item, so that accounts can be easily made. Nishibe, et al. does not disclose or suggest a plurality of input units that input a variety of account data where a display unit displays the respective account data inputted and the account data is entered in the memory unit as an integral household account book as recited in the claims of the present application.

Moreover, nowhere in Nishibe, et al. is it disclosed or suggested anything related to judging an overlap between account data displayed on a display unit and account data entered in a memory unit as the household account book. The Examiner asserts that these limitations in the claims of the present application are disclosed in Nishibe, et al. in Figs. 5, 6 and at column 5, lines 34-43 and column 7, lines 17-25. However, Figs. 5 and 6 merely disclose block diagrams of an automated teller machine (ATM) and the connection of the ATM to a CPU. The cited text of Nishibe, et al. merely discloses a collation of common data between an ATM and a pass book. The common data is shown in Fig. 9a and includes items such as the bank number and the card number. This is not an overlap judgment unit which judges an overlap between respective account data inputted from a plurality of input units and account data entered in a memory as recited in the claims of the present application.

Regarding claims 4, 5 and 9, Applicants submit that these claims are dependent on one of independent claims 3 and 8 and, therefore, are patentable at least for the same reasons noted previously regarding these independent claims.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that Nishibe et al. does not disclose or suggest the limitations in the combination of each of claims 3-6 and 8 and 9 of the present application. Applicants respectfully request that these rejections be withdrawn and that these claims be allowed.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 3-6 and 8 and 9 are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance of such claims is respectfully requested.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned **"Version with markings to show changes made."**

To the extent necessary, Applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 CFR §1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees and excess claim fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (referencing case No. 503.38263X00) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



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IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1, 2 and 7 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend the claims as follows:

3. (Twice Amended) A household account book management apparatus comprising [an] plural input [unit] units which [inputs] input a variety of account data, a processing unit which processes the inputted account data, a memory unit which stores the processed result performed by said processing unit and a display unit which displays the account data stored in said memory unit as a household account book, wherein said displaying unit displays the respective account data inputted from said plural input units and the account data entered in said memory unit as the household account book and said processing unit includes an overlap judgment unit which judges an overlap between the respective account data [inputted from said input] displayed on said display unit and the account data entered in said memory unit as the household account book and stores the account data into said memory unit based on the result of the overlap judgment.

8. (Twice Amended) A household account book management system in which a plurality of terminals are connected via a network and at least one terminal includes a household account book management apparatus which displays account data inputted via the network as a household account book, wherein said household account book management apparatus [receives account data dealt in connection with data displayed as a household account book from another terminal connected to the network and displays the data inputted from the other terminal as account

data dealt in connection with the data.] includes plural input units which input a variety of account data, a processing unit which processes the inputted account data, a memory unit which stores the processed result performed by said processing unit and a display unit which displays the account data stored in said memory unit as a household account book, wherein said displaying unit displays the respective account data inputted from said plural input units and the account data entered in said memory unit as the household account book and said processing unit includes an overlap judgment unit which judges an overlap between the respective account data displayed on said display unit and the account data entered in said memory unit as the household account book and stores the account data into said memory unit based on the result of the overlap judgment.